

PROCLAMATION NEWBORN SCREENING AWARENESS MONTH SEPTEMBER 2009

WHEREAS, according to the National Newborn Screening and Genetics Resource Center, one in 800 babies is born with a potential metabolic disorder; and

WHEREAS, most babies with disorders look and act normal and seem perfectly healthy at birth; and

WHEREAS, if disorders are detected and treated early, growth and development can occur normally; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Department of Health's Newborn Screening Program tests all infants for inherited disorders; and

WHEREAS, keeping babies healthy and promoting awareness of newborn screening disorders are important responsibilities for groups and organizations throughout our state; and

WHEREAS, through education and increased awareness, families can better understand the importance of these tests and how they can help to ensure their children grow up healthy.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 2009, **NEWBORN SCREENING AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State

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